

Appl. No. 09/785,508  
Amendment dated August 5, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2003

### *Remarks*

Claims 2-5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14-21 and 23-25 are pending in the application, with claims 23-26 being the independent claim. New claim 26 is sought to be added, and claim 22 has been canceled. Entry of the present amendments is respectfully requested.

Based on the present Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

### Withdrawal of a Premature Final Rejection

The Petition to Withdraw the Finality of a Premature Final Rejection filed May 13, 2003 and faxed to the Examiner again on July 9, 2003 is still outstanding. Withdrawal of the finality of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested.

### Acknowledgement of Allowed Subject Matter

The indication that claims 7 and 23-25 are allowed is gratefully noted.

### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,817,638 to Garthaffner et al. ("Garthaffner") in view of Crowder. Claims 2-5, 9, 16-18, 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over GB 919,150 to Korber in view of Crowder. Claims 2, 3, 9, 10 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,390,099 to Dombek in view of Crowder.

Claim 22 is the independent claim and all other rejected claims are dependent thereon. Claim 22 and allowed claim 7 have been combined as new claim 25. The cited references do not teach the combination of claims 22 and 7, particularly the references do not teach a toothless belt in the apparatus recited by former claim 22.

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Reasons for Entry of Amendments After Final

Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested as placing the application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, the amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration on the part of the Examiner. Claim 26 is a combination of previously pending claims 22 and 7. Claim 7 was considered allowed. As such, no new features are presented.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

A Notice of Allowance with claims 2-5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14-21 and 23-26 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 08/05/03



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